

Serial No. 10/564,186  
Amendment  
Responsive to Office Action dated June 13, 2008

H&C-5138

**REMARKS**

**Pending Claims**

Claims 1-4, 7-11, and 13 are pending. Claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 1, 4, and 8 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

**Claim for Priority**

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner officially acknowledges the claim for priority of Japanese application No. 2004-028347 and the safe receipt of the certified priority document.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 10-12 are objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(b) as being unpatentable over Okamura et al, JP2000-96626, in view of Hirai, JP 8-74292, and further in view of Hibiya,

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JP 2001-40702. Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection in view of the foregoing amendments and for the following reasons.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of allowable claim 12, which has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Further, new claim 13 has been added that includes all of the limitations of allowable claim 10 and base claim 1. Accordingly, each of claims 1-4, 7-11 and 13 should now be allowed and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) withdrawn.

#### **Information Disclosure Statement**

Applicants submit an Information Disclosure Statement for a document cited in Japanese application No. 2004-028347, which is the application from which the present application claims priority. A copy of the document is submitted. The document is in the Japanese language and therefore a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is provided by the English language Abstract of the document also submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement. Consideration of the document is respectfully requested.

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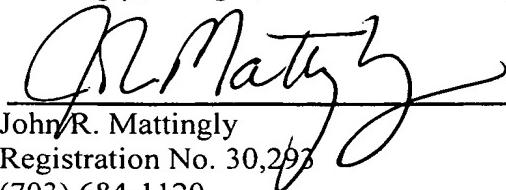
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**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 15, 2008